

ACTION SCT-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	A-00	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00
	CTME-00	INL-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	DS-00	EB-00
	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	UTED-00	VC-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00
	L-00	VCE-00	M-00	AC-00	NEA-00	NRC-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OCS-00	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00
	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	USSS-00	SA-00	ASDS-00	PMB-00
	DSCC-00	G-00	SAS-00	/000W			

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1055

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 000603

PLEASE PASS TO TTIC

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PTER, ASEC, PK

SUBJECT: PAKISTAN: 2004 ANNUAL TERRORISM REPORT

REF: 04 STATE 245841

1. Few countries suffered as much from terrorism in 2004 as Pakistan, and few did as much to combat it. After the two near-miss assassination attempts against President Musharraf in December 2003, groups linked to al-Qaida tried to assassinate a Corps Commander in Karachi in June, and the Finance Minister (now Prime Minister) in July. Nearly 200 people were killed in major Sunni-Shia sectarian attacks. Separatist insurgents in Baluchistan launched hundreds of attacks, most on security force installations and infrastructure targets. Al-Qaida declared the government of Pakistan one of its main enemies, and called for its overthrow.

2. Pakistan Army and Frontier Corps units destroyed key al-Qaida safehavens in South Waziristan Agency, part of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), killing over 100 foreign terrorists and dispersing several hundred more. The government developed a strategy to win the support of the tribes with a combination of negotiations, economic development and political reform.

3. Pakistani security services are cooperating closely with the United States and other nations to interdict and eliminate terrorism both within Pakistan and abroad. Hundreds of suspected operatives of al-Qaida and associated

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groups have been killed or captured with the cooperation of Pakistani authorities. Particularly notable in 2004 were the capture of al-Qaida communications expert and Heathrow bomb plot suspect Naeem Noor Khan in July, the arrest of U.S. Embassy bombing suspect Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani the same month, and the killing of Daniel Pearl murder suspect Amjad Farooqi in September. The government also cracked down on several groups that had been active in the Kashmir insurgency, detaining the head of Harakat-ul-Mujahideen for several months and arranging the extradition of the head of Harakat-ul-Jihad-e-Islami.

4. Pursuant to its obligations under UN Security Council Resolutions 1267, 1333, 1390 and 1455, Pakistan continues to work with the UN 1267 Sanctions Committee to freeze the assets of individuals and groups identified as terrorist entities linked to al-Qaida and the Taliban. Pakistan's Parliament passed an amendment to the 1997 Anti Terrorism Act that increased the penalties and prohibited bail for those who finance terrorism. Pakistan also drafted and won agreement for a regional convention against terrorist financing.

5. Pakistan's Anti-Terrorism Courts continue to prosecute terrorism cases. In 2004, the courts convicted a suspect in the 2003 bombing of the US Consulate in Karachi, several suspects in the assassination attempts against Musharraf, seven suspects in the 2002 attack on a Christian school, and nine suspects in the bombing of the Macedonian Consulate.

6. US-Pakistan joint counterterrorism efforts have been extensive. They include cooperative efforts in border security and criminal investigations, as well as several long-term training projects. A Joint Working Group on Counterterrorism and Law Enforcement, established in 2002, met in September to assess ongoing joint efforts and discuss enhanced cooperation. Pakistan provides significant assistance in the investigation of international terrorism, acting on leads provided by security forces of other countries as well as those developed in its own investigations.

7. Pakistan has signed 11 of the 12 international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, and is a party to 10.

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